

May 3, 2010 - Special Town Council Meeting

At a Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Middletown, RI, held at the Middletown Town Hall on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Council President Christopher T. Semonelli, Presiding

Vice Chairman Richard Cambra

Councillor Frank A. Bozyan

Councillor M. Theresa Santos

Councillor Edward J. Silveira, Jr.,

Councillor Robert J. Sylvia

Councillor Barbara A. VonVillas, Members Present

POSTED – April 29, 2010

Wendy J.W. Marshall, Town Clerk

Town of Middletown

Town Hall – 350 East Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island 02842

Dear Mrs. Marshall:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 203 of the Town Charter and in accordance with Sections 42-46-2., 42-46-4. and 42-46-6., RIGL, I hereby call a Special Meeting of the Town Council to formally consider, discuss and act upon the following item of business:

Joint Meeting with School Committee – School Budget and matters related thereto

Said meeting will be held on Monday, May 3, 2010, at 6:00 P.M. at the Middletown Town Hall, 350 East Main Road, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842.

Christopher T. Semonelli,

President

Middletown Town Council

CC:

Town Council

Public Library
Finance Director

Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
School Department

Human Resource Manager

This meeting location is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requiring interpreter services for the hearing-impaired should notify the Town Clerk's Office at 847-0009 not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

On motion of Vice Chairman Cambra, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said communication.

Also present were Town Administrator Shawn Brown, Finance Director Lynne Dible, Deputy Finance Director Marc Tanguay and Accounting Manager Deborah Barrett.

Present, representing the School Department, were Superintendent Rosemarie Kraeger, Assistant Superintendent Linda Savastano, Business Manager Requel Pellerin, Director of Facilities Edward Collins, School Committee Chair Michael Crowley, Vice Chair Theresa Spengler, members Kellie DiPalma, Liana Ferreira Fenton(arriving at 6:31pm) and William R. O'Connell.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown noted that when the budget process began the proposal was to exceed the tax cap. The proposed school funding formula legislation may be passed this year, but not implemented for several years. Mr. Brown noted at the May 3, 2010 at 5:00 pm special meeting of the Council, it was voted to

request the Town Administration to prepare a zero percent tax increase budget proposal. The impact on the School budget realized from a zero percent proposal decreases the school request by \$900,000., RI General Laws dictates that the Town must appropriate same funding as the prior year budget.

Superintendent Rosemarie Kraeger explained that revenues will be short and the school will have to reduce its budget by \$900,000., on the Town side, plus 3% loss of state aid. Mrs. Kraeger noted an increase in student enrollment, no new programs or additional teachers were added and no layoff notices were issued, due to enrollment and class size.

Discussion centered around unfunded state mandates, the proposed funding formula legislation, need for quality education and generating revenues within the school department.

On motion of Vice Chairman Cambra, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Wendy J.W. Marshall, CMC

Council Clerk

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